SEASIDE GROUNDWATER BASIN WATERMASTER

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

Friday, September 19, 2025
1:00 P.M.

NOTICE / AGENDA

Committee Members			
City of Seaside *Jessica Riley – Chair*	California American Water *David Pezzini - Alternate*	City of Sand City *Mary Ann Carbone*	Coastal Subarea Landowners *Paul Bruno*

This meeting will be held in-person at the Seaside City Hall Conference Room
440 Harcourt Avenue, Seaside, CA 93955
To join by Zoom: Meeting ID: 814 6140 6383 *** Passcode: 703403
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81461406383?pwd=CqxeBsc3BcwetzeTPAVW3nFUKx9ODR.1

If you would like to comment on any item on the agenda or any item not on the agenda, please submit those in writing to our office or via email at watermasterseaside@sbcglobal.net by 10 a.m. on Wednesday, September 17, 2025. All submitted written comments will be provided to the Committee and you may also comment during the meeting.

Public Comment:
The public may comment 3 minutes on any item within the committee's jurisdiction.

Action Items:

1. Fiscal Year 2026 Annual Budgets
   A. Administrative Fund 3
   B. Monitoring and Management Fund—Operations & Capital 5
   C. Replenishment Fund (informational) 21
2. Replenishment Assessment Unit Costs for Natural Safe Yield and Operating Yield Overproduction for Water Year October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2026 25

Other Items: None

If requested, the agenda and documents in the agenda packet shall be made available in appropriate alternative formats to persons with a disability, as required by Section 202 of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. Sec. 12132), and the federal rules and regulations adopted in implementation thereof.

This agenda was forwarded via email to the City Clerks of Seaside, Monterey, Sand City, and Del Rey Oaks; the Clerk of the Monterey Board of Supervisors, the Clerk to the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District; the Clerk at the Monterey County Water Resources Agency, Monterey One Water, and California American Water Company for posting on or before September 16, 2025, per the Ralph M. Brown Act, Government Code Section 54954.2 (a).

SEASIDE GROUNDWATER BASIN WATERMASTER **ITEM 1.A.**
9/19/2025

TO: Watermaster Budget and Finance Committee

FROM: Laura Paxton, Administrative Officer (AO)

DATE: September 19, 2025

SUBJECT: Proposed Fiscal Year (Calendar Year) 2026 Annual Administrative Fund Budget

RECOMMENDATION:

Consider/approve the proposed 2026 Administrative Fund Budget and recommend Watermaster Board approval.

DISCUSSION:

The court decision states that next fiscal year's budgets must be approved by the Board of Directors no later than the end of October each year in order for tentative budgets to be circulated to each adjudication Party "no earlier than November 1 and no later than November 15th each fiscal year.

The proposed 2026 Contractual Services budget amount of $84,000 is a $6,000 increase from the current year. In preparing for recruitment of a new Administrative Officer (AO) to begin January 1, 2026, a detailed monthly task list has been developed that determines generally 36 hours per month are required to administer Watermaster. The $84,000 proposed is in line with 36 hours per month at a pay rate of up to $195 per hour if the new AO has full qualifications/skills for the position, or would account for up to 56 hours per month at a rate of $125 per hour for lesser qualifications/skills and thus more time needed to fulfill the duties of the position.

Joe Hughes and Alex Dominguez, Watermaster legal counsel, contracted with Watermaster and began assisting the board in 2023. They are currently tasked with researching the Decision regarding aspects of Basin replenishment and it is anticipated this task will continue into 2026. Replenishment related services will be funded in 2026 by the estimated $8,112 remaining balance in the Replenishment Assessment Fund after 2025 expenditures. Estimated costs for the SNG matter, filing the Annual Report, and unforeseen services are proposed at $12,500 for 2026 non-replenishment related legal services.

FISCAL IMPACT:

An Administrative Fund Assessment of $57,200 is proposed: $84,000 (AO) + $20,612 (Legal) + $25,000 (Reserve) = $129,612 - $8112 (RA Fund) - $64,300 (Carryover) = $57,200

The assessments for the parties required to contribute to the Administrative Fund are:

California American Water 83.0%	$ 47,476
City of Seaside 14.4%	8,237
City of Sand City 2.6%	1,487
	$57,200

ATTACHMENTS

1) Proposed Administrative Fund Budget for FY (Calendar Year) 2026

Seaside Groundwater Basin Watermaster
Administrative Fund Budget
Proposed Budget September 19, 2025
Administrative Year 2026

	2025 Adopted Budget	2025 Estimated Total	2026 Proposed Budget
Assessment Income			
Rollover from previous year*	$ 2,500	$ 50,296	$ 64,300
Administrative Assessment	113,000	113,000	57,200
Replenishment Related Legal Costs**	10,474	4,000	8,112
Totals	125,974	167,296	129,612
Expenditures			
Contractual Services - Administrative	78,000	65,000	84,000
Legal Services - Administrative	12,500	9,000	12,500
Legal Services - Replenishment	10,474	4,000	8,112
Total Expenses	100,974	78,000	104,612
Total Available	25,000	89,296	25,000
Less Reserve	25,000	25,000	25,000
Net Available	$ -	$ 64,296	$ -

** Note: The Rollover balance of $50,296 was based on a detailed reconciliation of actual expenses from 2006 through July 31, 2025 of the Administrative Fund financial records held at the Watermaster office and estimations through the remainder of the 2025 year.*

*** Replenishment related legal and administrative costs will be covered by funds transferred into the Administrative Fund from the Replenishment Assessment Fund*

SEASIDE BASIN WATERMASTER
BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

** * * AGENDA TRANSMITTAL FORM * * **

MEETING DATE:	September 19, 2025
AGENDA ITEM:	1.B.
AGENDA TITLE:	Approve the FY 2026 Monitoring and Management Program (M&MP) Operations and Capital Budgets
PREPARED BY:	Robert Jaques, Technical Program Manager

SUMMARY:

Attached are the proposed M&MP Operations and Capital Budgets for 2026 and 2027. The Board has asked that two-year budgets be developed to alert the Board to potential changes in scope and/or cost in near future years. Only the 2026 budgets are before the Budget and Finance Committee for approval. The 2027 budgets are for information only. The following are comments and/or principal revisions from the 2025 M&MP Budget:

Technical Program Manager: The Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) for the adjacent Monterey Subbasin was completed and submitted in early 2022 by the Salinas Valley Basin and the Marina Coast Water District Groundwater Sustainability Agencies, and the Salinas Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency completed and submitted GSPs for the other subbasins. There will continue to be regular meetings of their GSP-related committees that I either serve on representing the Watermaster, or monitor to keep the Watermaster informed on the topics discussed at those meetings. Also, there will likely be further work related to obtaining replenishment water for the Basin. Therefore, I anticipate that the 2026 workload will be similar to that of 2025, so the proposed line-item budget amount has been maintained at $75,000 in 2026.

Tasks Involving MPWMD and Montgomery & Associates: The scopes-of-work for both MPWMD and Montgomery & Associates are essentially unchanged from 2025. However, both will have hourly-rate increases in 2026, so the costs of the Tasks in which they are involved reflect somewhat higher dollar amounts in 2026 compared to 2025.

Tasks I.2.b.1, I.2.b.5, and I.4.e.1: All of these Tasks include the potential for installing additional monitoring wells. The need to install those wells will not be known until the Updated SIRP has been completed and approved by the Board. Hopefully that will occur in late 2025. The location of additional monitoring wells, if any are needed, would not be determined until the Seaside Basin Groundwater Model has been updated or replaced with a new model developed under Task I.3.a.1. That work will not be completed until late in 2026. Therefore, no new monitoring wells are expected to be installed in 2026.

Task I.2.b.8: This Task, which was added in 2025, has been carried on into 2026 to perform additional subsurface electromagnetic imaging in the vicinity of Sentinel Well No. 4, if the work performed in 2025 was found to be useful and beneficial in helping to determine if seawater is beginning to intrude inland in this location.

SEASIDE BASIN WATERMASTER
BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

** * * AGENDA TRANSMITTAL FORM * * **

AGENDA ITEM:	1.B. (Continued)

Task I.3.a.1: This is to update the groundwater modeling of the Seaside Basin, and was originally included in the 2025 M&MP. However, completion of the modeling work being performed in the adjacent Salinas Vally Basin has taken longer than originally expected, so this Task could not be performed in 2025 and has been moved to 2026. Significant changes in the understanding of the hydrogeology of the Monterey Subbasin, which abuts the Seaside Basin, have been identified through work being conducted by the Salinas Valley Basin and Marina Coast Groundwater Sustainability Agencies. The Salinas Valley Integrated Hydrogeologic Model (SVIHM) and the Seawater Intrusion Model are now expected to be completed in late 2025. In order for the Watermaster to have a model to incorporate that new information and to more closely coordinate with the groundwater models in the adjacent subbasins, it may be desirable to update the Watermaster's modeling work in 2026. The existing Seaside Basin Model was last updated in 2018 at a cost of approximately $55K. However, that update only consisted of inputting more recent groundwater measurements (water level, production, etc.) but no changes to the actual model itself were made. The 2026 proposed updating work would be a much more complex and vigorous undertaking, with a commensurate significantly higher cost. The consultant (Montgomery & Associates) has provided a ballpark cost range of $100K to $150K to update the existing Seaside Basin Model. However, discussions with Montgomery and Associates and the TAC may lead to the conclusion that rather than simply updating the existing Seaside Basin Model, there may be a more useful and cost-effective way to prepare a model that incorporates the newer information and data and better integrates with the modeling being done in the other subbasins of the Salinas Valley Basin. The Budget includes $125K for this Task (midpoint of ballpark cost range). In the 2018 Model update, the cost was shared between the Watermaster, MPWMD, and M1W. The Watermaster paid 50% of the cost and the two other agencies collectively paid the other 50%. If this model updating work is undertaken in 2026, efforts will be made to again cost-share as was done with the 2018 update.

Task I.4.e.1: This new Task has been added to begin implementing the recommendations in the Updated Seawater Intrusion Response Plan (Updated SIRP). The recommendations to be implemented will not be known until the Updated SIRP has been completed and approved by the Board. Hopefully that will occur in late 2025. Following discussions with Montgomery & Associates it does not appear that any significant work under this Task should be performed until the Groundwater Modeling update work of Task I.3.a.1 has been completed. Therefore, a place-holder amount to only perform preliminary work on Task I.4.e.1 has been included in the 2026 M&MP Operations Budget.

SEASIDE BASIN WATERMASTER
BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

** * * AGENDA TRANSMITTAL FORM * * **

AGENDA ITEM:	1.B (Continued)

As a result of the changes described above, as indicated by the right-hand column titled "Comparative Costs from 2025 Budget" in Attachment 1, the proposed 2026 Budget is $12,367 higher ($491,606 - $479,239) than the 2025 Budget.

FISCAL IMPACT:
For the Monitoring & Maintenance – Operations Fund:
An estimated $66,606 in unspent 2025 funds are expected to be carried over to 2026. An Operations Fund Assessment of $525,000 is proposed ($491,606 Ops Budget + $100,000 Ops Fund Reserve - $66,606 carryover = $525,000).

The assessments for the parties required to contribute to the Operations Fund are:

California American Water 91.0%	$477,750
City of Seaside 7.0%	36,750
D.B.O. 0.9%	4,725
Granite Rock 0.9%	4,725
Cypress Pacific 0.2%	1,050
	$525,000

Following Budget and Finance Committee approval of the 2026 M&MP and Budgets, they will be forwarded to the Board for approval.

ATTACHMENTS:	1. 2026 and 2027 M&MP Operations Budgets 2. 2026 and 2027 M&MP Capital Budgets
RECOMMENDED ACTION:	Approve, or make changes to, the attached Budgets and then recommend these for approval to the Board

Monitoring and Management Program Operations Budget
For Tasks to be Undertaken in 2026

Task	Subtask	Sub-Subtask	Cost Description	CONSULTANTS & CONTRACTORS[3]					Total	Comparative Costs from 2025 Budget
				MPWMD	Montgomery & Associates	Todd Groundwater	Martin Feeney	Contractors or Other Consultants		
			Labor							
			Technical Project Manager	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	$75,000	$75,000
M.1 Program Administration										
	M.1.a		Project Budget and Controls	$0				$0	$0	$0
	M.1.b		Assist with Board and TAC Agendas	$0				$0	$0	$0
	M.1.c, M.1.d, & M.1.e		Preparation for and Attendance at Meetings and Peer Review of Documents and Reports[8]	$0	$15,220	$4,000	$4,000	$0	$23,220	$20,570
	M.1.f		QA/QC	$0				$0	$0	$0
	M.1.g		SGMA Documentation Preparation	$0	$2,694	$0	$0	$0	$2,694	$3,124
I.1 Initial Phase 1 Monitoring Well Construction (Task Completed in Phase 1)										
I.2 Production, Water Level and Quality Monitoring										
	I. 2. a.		Database Management							
		I. 2. a. 1.	Conduct Ongoing Data Entry/ Database Maintenance and Respond to Data Requests[15]	$15,432				$0	$15,432	$19,650
		I. 2. a. 2.	Verify Accuracy of Production Well Meters	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
	I. 2. b.		Data Collection Program							
		I. 2. b. 1.	Site Representation and Selection[14]	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
		I. 2. b. 2.	Collect Water Levels[5][6]	$23,932	$0	$0	$0	$0	$23,932	$21,644
		I. 2. b. 3.	Collect Water Quality Samples and Perform Sentinel Well Induction Logging[1][5]	$39,862	$0	$0	$0	$0	$39,862	$32,382
		I. 2. b. 4.	Update Program Schedule and Standard Operating Procedures.	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
		I. 2. b. 5.	Monitor Well Construction[14]	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
		I. 2. b. 6.	Reports	$2,112	$0	$0	$0	$0	$2,112	$3,792
		I. 2. b. 7.	CASGEM Data Submittal for Watermaster's Voluntary Wells	$3,168	$0	$0	$0	$0	$3,168	$4,320
		I.2.b.8	Perform Subsurface Electromagnetic Imaging	$0	$0	$0	$0	$15,500	$15,500	$15,500
I.3 Basin Management										
	I. 3. a.		Enhanced Seaside Basin Groundwater Model	(Costs Shown in Subtasks Below)						
		I. 3. a. 1	Update the Existing Model[11]	$0	$125,000	$0	$0	$0	$125,000	$125,000
		I. 3. a. 2	Develop Protective Water Levels[12]	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
		I. 3. a. 3	Evaluate Replenishment Scenarios and Develop Answers to Basin Management Questions[10]	$0	$40,000			$0	$40,000	$40,000
	I. 3. b.		Complete Preparation of Basin Management Action Plan	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
	I. 3. c.		Refine and/or Update the Basin Management Action Plan[7]	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
	I. 3. d		Evaluate Coastal Wells for Cross-Aquifer Contamination Potential	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
	I. 3. e		Seaside Basin Geochemical Model[13]	$0	$10,000	$0	$0	$0	$10,000	$10,000
I.4 Seawater Intrusion Contingency Plan										
	I. 4. a.		Oversight of Seawater Intrusion Detection and Tracking[17]	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
	I. 4. b.		Analyze and Map Water Quality from Coastal Monitoring Wells	(Costs Included Under I.4.a)						
	I. 4. c.		Annual Report- Seawater Intrusion Analysis[16]	$0	$36,346	$0	$0	$0	$36,346	$30,050
	I. 4. e.		Refine and/or Update the Seawater Intrusion Response Plan[2]	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$25,481
		I.4.e.1	Implement Recommendations in the Updated Seawater Intrusion Response Plan[14]		$25,000				$25,000	$0
	I. 4. f.		If Seawater Intrusion is Determined to be Occurring, Implement the Seawater Intrusion Response Plan[9]	(No Costs are Included for This Task, as This Task May Not be Necessary During 2025. If it Does Become Necessary, Use of Contingency Funds or a Budget Modification Will Likely be Necessary)						
		TOTALS CONSULTANTS & CONTRACTORS		**$84,506**	**$254,260**	**$4,000**	**$4,000**	**$15,500**	$362,266	$351,512
								SUBTOTAL not including Technical Program Manager =	$362,266	$351,512
								Contingency (not including Technical Program Manager) @ 15%[4]=	$54,340	$52,727
								Technical Program Manager =	$75,000	$75,000
								TOTAL=	**$491,606**	**$479,239**

Footnotes:

(1) Under this Subtask the Watermaster will contract with MPWMD to perform the Sentinel Well induction logging work and to perform the other portions of the work of this Subtask. The Sentinel Wells will be induction logged once per year (in September).

(2) The response plan was updated in 2025.

(3) Within the context of this document the term "Consultant" refers to a private consultant providing professional engineering or other types of technical services. The term "Contractor" refers to a firm providing construction or field services such as well drilling or meter calibration.

(4) Due to the uncertainties of the exact scopes of some of the larger Tasks listed above at the time of preparation of this Budget it is recommended that a Contingency of 15% be included in the Budget.

(5) The MPWMD portion of these Tasks includes:

For Task I.2.b.2: (1) $570 for vehicle mileage costs for both this Task and Task I.2.b.3 and (2) $850 to purchase a replacement datalogger (if necessary).

For Task I.2.b.3: (1) $7,488 for laboratory analytical costs, (2) $250 for CO_2 bottles to run the sample pumps, (3) $950 to purchase a replacement low flow sampling pump (if necessary), (4) $808 of administrative support costs for preparing billings and processing invoices from the water quality laboratory, and (5) $3,000 for Pacific Surveys to set up a temporary pulley system for induction logging in the event they cannot locate their van adjacent to the wells they are logging.

(6) Does not include costs for MPWMD to collect water level data or water quality samples from wells other than those that are part of the basic monitoring well network, i.e. for private well owners who have requested that the Watermaster obtain this data for them. Costs to obtain that data are to be reimbursed to the Watermaster by those well owners, so there should be no net cost to the Watermaster for that portion of the work under these Tasks.

(7) The BMAP was updated in 2018, and no further work on this Task is anticipated in 2026.

(8) This cost is for Montgomery and Associates, Todd Groundwater, and Martin Feeney to provide hydrogeologic consulting assistance to the Watermaster, beyond that associated with performing other specified Tasks, when/if requested to do so by the Technical Program Manager. This work may include, but not be limited to, participation in conference calls and reviewing documents prepared by others.

(9) If work under this Task is found to be necessary, it will need to be funded through the Contingency line item or by a Budget transfer.

(10) This Task is included to provide funds for the Watermaster to perform modeling and other investigative work to aid in making Basin management decisions that the Board may wish to perform in 2026.

(11) The Model was last updated and recalibrated in 2018, but that work did not include any change to the Model itself, only inputting more recent groundwater data and then recalibrating it for a best match with field measured well data. The proposed 2026 update would incorporate new hydrogeologic data from multiple sources, along with more recent groundwater data, in order to more closely match the data being used in the models for adjacent Monterey Subbasin of the greater Salinas Valley Basin.

(12) The protective water levels developed in 2009 were examined in 2013 to see if they needed to be updated. It was concluded that the 2009 protective levels were still satisfactory for Basin management purposes, and that no revisions were needed. No work under this Task is anticipated in 2026.

(13) This was a new Task that was started in 2018, and was completed for the PWM AWT water in 2019. Funds allocated for this Task in 2026 would only be used if geochemical modeling is performed in 2026 for the MPWSP desalination plant water, and if that modeling indicates the need to have Montgomery and Associates use the Seaside Basin groundwater model to provide additional information needed by the geochemical model to develop miitgation measures for any adverse water quality impacts the geochemical model predicts could occur from introducing desalinated water into the Basin.

(14) If the updated SIRP under Task I.4.e recommends installing additional monitoring wells, and if the Board directs that such wells be installed in 2026, the cost to identify the number, type, and location of those wells will be covered under Task I.4.e.1. The cost of constructing those wells will be covered in the M&MP Capital Budget.

(15) Watermaster staff will maintain the Watermaster's website and post documents on it. It includes $2,760 for MPWMD to respond to requests from consultants and others for data from the database (that would only be expended if needed).

(16) MPWMD's costs to assist in this Task are included in its costs under Task I.2.b.6.

(17) MPWMD's and Montgomery & Associates' costs to provide oversight in this Task are included under their other Tasks.

Monitoring and Management Program Preliminary Estimated Operations Budget For Tasks to be Undertaken in 2027											Comparative Costs from 2026 Budget
Task	Subtask	Sub-Subtask	Cost Description	CONSULTANTS & CONTRACTORS[3]					Total		
				MPWMD	Montgomery & Associates	Todd Groundwater	Martin Feeney	Contractors or Other Consultants			
				Labor							
			Technical Project Manager	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	$75,000		
M.1 Program Administration											
	M.1.a		Project Budget and Controls	$0				$0	$0		$0
	M.1.b		Assist with Board and TAC Agendas	$0				$0	$0		$0
	M.1.c, M.1.d, & M.1.e		Preparation for and Attendance at Meetings and Peer Review of Documents and Reports[8]	$0	$12,947	$4,000	$4,000	$0	$20,947		$23,220
	M.1.f		QA/QC	$0				$0	$0		$0
	M.1.g		SGMA Documentation Preparation	$0	$3,218	$0	$0	$0	$3,218		$2,694
I.1 Initial Phase 1 Monitoring Well Construction (Task Completed											
I.2 Production, Water Level and Quality Monitoring											
	I. 2. a.		Database Management								
		I. 2. a. 1.	Conduct Ongoing Data Entry/ Database Maintenance and Respond to Data Requests[15]	$15,895				$0	$15,895		$15,432
		I. 2. a. 2.	Verify Accuracy of Production Well Meters	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0		$0
	I. 2. b.		Data Collection Program								
		I. 2. b. 1.	Site Representation and Selection[7]	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0		$0
		I. 2. b. 2.	Collect Water Levels[5][6]	$24,650	$0	$0	$0	$0	$24,650		$23,932
		I. 2. b. 3.	Collect Water Quality Samples and Perform Sentinel Well Induction Logging[1][5]	$41,058	$0	$0	$0	$0	$41,058		$39,862
		I. 2. b. 4.	Update Program Schedule and Standard Operating Procedures.	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0		$0
		I. 2. b. 5.	Monitor Well Construction[7]	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0		$0
		I. 2. b. 6.	Reports	$2,175	$0	$0	$0	$0	$2,175		$2,112
		I. 2. b. 7.	CASGEM Data Submittal for Watermaster's Voluntary Wells	$3,263	$0	$0	$0	$0	$3,263		$3,168
		I.2.b.8	Perform Subsurface Electromagnetic Imaging[15]	$0	$0	$0	$0	$15,965	$15,965		$15,500
I.3 Basin Management											
	I. 3. a.		Enhanced Seaside Basin Groundwater Model	(Costs Shown in Subtasks Below)							
		I. 3. a. 1	Update the Existing Model[11]	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0		$125,000
		I. 3. a. 2	Develop Protective Water Levels	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0		$0
		I. 3. a. 3	Evaluate Replenishment Scenarios and Develop Answers to Basin Management Questions[10]	$0	$40,000			$0	$40,000		$40,000
	I. 3. b.		Complete Preparation of Basin Management Action Plan	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0		$0
	I. 3. c.		Refine and/or Update the Basin Management Action Plan[14]	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0		$0
	I. 3. d		Evaluate Coastal Wells for Cross-Aquifer Contamination Potential	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0		$0
	I. 3. e		Seaside Basin Geochemical Model[13]	$0	$10,000	$0	$0	$0	$10,000		$10,000
I.4 Seawater Intrusion Contingency Plan											
	I. 4. a.		Oversight of Seawater Intrusion Detection and Tracking[17]	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0		$0
	I. 4. b.		Analyze and Map Water Quality from Coastal Monitoring Wells	(Costs Included Under I.4.a)							
	I. 4. c.		Annual Report- Seawater Intrusion Analysis	$0	$30,952	$0	$0	$0	$30,952		$36,346
	I. 4. e.		Refine and/or Update the Seawater Intrusion Response Plan[2]	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0		$0
		I.4.e.1	Implement Recommendations in the Updated Seawater Intrusion Response Plan[7]		$35,000				$35,000		$25,000
	I. 4. f.		If Seawater Intrusion is Determined to be Occurring, Implement the Seawater Intrusion Response Plan[9]	(No Costs are Included for This Task, as This Task May Not be Necessary During 2027. If it Does Become Necessary, Use of Contingency Funds or a Budget Modification Will Likely be Necessary)							
			TOTALS CONSULTANTS & CONTRACTORS[12]	**$87,041**	**$132,116**	**$4,000**	**$4,000**	**$15,965**	$243,123		362266
								SUBTOTAL not including Technical Program Manager =	$243,123		$362,266
								Contingency (not including Technical Program Manager) @ 15%[4] =	$36,468		$54,340
								Technical Program Manager =	$75,000		$75,000
								TOTAL=	**$354,591**		**$491,606**

Footnotes:
(1) Under this Subtask the Watermaster will contract with MPWMD to perform the Sentinel Well induction logging work and to perform the other portions of the work of this Subtask. The Sentinel Wells will be induction logged once per year (in September).
(2) The response plan is not expected to be updated in 2027.
(3) Within the context of this document the term “Consultant” refers to a private consultant providing professional engineering or other types of technical services. The term “Contractor” refers to a firm providing construction or field services such as well drilling or meter calibration.
(4) Due to the uncertainties of the exact scopes of some of the Tasks listed above at the time of preparation of this Budget, it is recommended that a 15% Contingency be included in the Budget.
(5) A portion of this cost is for maintaining sampling equipment that was installed in prior years.
(6) Does not include costs for MPWMD to collect water level data or water quality samples from wells other than those that are part of the basic monitoring well network, i.e. for private well owners who have requested that the Watermaster obtain this data for them. Costs to obtain that data are to be reimbursed to the Watermaster by those well owners, so there should be no net cost to the Watermaster for that portion of the work under these Tasks.
(7) If the updated SIRP under Task I.4.e recommends installing additional monitoring wells, and if the Board directs that such wells be installed in 2027, the cost to identify the number, type, and location of those wells will be covered under Task I.4.e.1. The cost of constructing those wells will be covered in the M&MP Capital Budget. A placeholder amount of $5,000 for that work has been included in this Task for 2027. If the Board authorizes modeling work to be done to carry out any of the other recommendations in the updated SIRP, they would be charged to this Task. At the time of preparation of this estimated 2027 Opearations Budget no Board decision on this matter had been made, so a placeholder amount of $30,000 for that work has been included in this Task for 2027.
(8) For Montgomery and Associates, Todd Groundwater, and Martin Feeney to provide hydrogeologic consulting assistance to the Watermaster, beyond that associated with performing other specified Tasks, when requested to do so by the Technical Program Manager.
(9) If work under this Task is found to be necessary, it will need to be funded through the Contingency line item or by a Budget transfer.
(10) This Task is included to provide funds for the Watermaster to perform modeling and other investigative work to aid in making Basin management decisions that the Board may wish to perform in 2027.
(11) The Model is expected to be unpdated in 2026, and is not expected to be updated in 2027.
(12) Includes a 3% inflation factor on most annually recurring costs in the 2026 Budget, except the Technical Program Manager cost which has no inflation factor applied to it.
(13) Work on this Task may not be performed in 2026, so work on this Task may need to be rebudgeted in 2027.
(14) Depending on any modeling work that is performed in 2026 using the updated Seaside Basin Groundwater Model under Task I.3.a.1, it may be desireable to update the BMAP in 2027.
(15) If the Board authorizes performing additional Subsurface Electromagnetic Imaging, as recommended in the updated SIRP, that work would be charged to this Task.

Monitoring and Management Program Capital Budget
For Tasks to be Undertaken in 2026

No Capital projects are anticipated to be undertaken in 2026, so this budget is $0.

Monitoring and Management Program Capital Budget
For Tasks to be Undertaken in 2027

See Note below regarding potentially installing additional monitoring wells in 2027 with a placeholder amount of $400,000 for that work.

Note: If the updated SIRP under Task I.4.e of the M&MP Operations Budget recommends installing additional monitoring wells, and if the Board directs that such wells be installed in 2027, the cost of constructing those wells will be covered in the 2027 M&MP Capital Budget. A placeholder amount of $400,000 for that work has been included in the Capital Budget for 2027.

FINAL DRAFT
Seaside Groundwater Basin
2026 Monitoring and Management Program

The tasks outlined below are those that are anticipated to be performed during 2026. Some Tasks listed below are specific to 2026, while other Tasks are recurring such as data collection, database entry, and Program Administration Tasks.

Within the context of this document the term "Consultant" refers either to a firm providing professional engineering or other types of technical services, or to the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District (MPWMD). The term "Contractor" refers to a firm providing construction or field services such as well drilling, induction logging, or meter calibration.

M.1 Program Administration

M. 1. a Project Budget and Controls ($0)	Consultants will provide monthly or bimonthly invoices to the Watermaster for work performed under their contracts with the Watermaster. Consultants will perform maintenance of their internal budgets and schedules, and management of their subconsultants. The Watermaster will perform management of its Consultants.
M. 1. b Assist with Board and TAC Agendas ($0)	Watermaster staff will prepare Board and TAC meeting agenda materials. No assistance from Consultants is expected to be necessary to accomplish this Task.
M. 1. c., M. 1. d, & M.1.e Preparation for and Attendance at Meetings, and Peer Review of Documents and Reports ($23,220)	The Consultants' work will require internal meetings and possibly meetings with outside governmental agencies and the public. For meetings with outside agencies, other Consultants, or any other parties which are necessary for the conduct of the work of their contracts, the Consultants will set up the meetings and prepare agendas and meeting minutes to facilitate the meetings. These may include planning and review meetings with Watermaster staff. The costs for these meetings will be included in their contracts, under the specific Tasks and/or subtasks to which the meetings relate. The only meeting costs that will be incurred under Tasks M.1.c, M.1.d, and M.1.e will be: • Those associated with attendance at TAC meetings (either in person or by videoconference connection), including providing periodic progress reports to the Watermaster for inclusion in the agenda packets for the TAC meetings, when requested by the Watermaster to do so. These progress reports will typically include project progress that has been made, problem identification and resolution, and planned upcoming work. • From time-to-time when Watermaster staff asks Consultants to make special presentations to the Watermaster Board and/or the TAC, and which are not included in the Consultant's contracts for other tasks. Appropriate Consultant representatives will attend TAC meetings (either in person or by videoconference connection) when requested to do so by Watermaster Staff, but will not be asked to prepare agendas or meeting minutes. As necessary, Consultants may provide oral updates to their progress reports (prepared under Task M.1.d) at the TAC meetings. When requested by the Watermaster staff, Consultants may be asked to

	assist the TAC and the Watermaster staff with peer reviews of documents and reports prepared by various other Watermaster Consultants and/or entities.
M. 1. f **QA/QC** **($0)**	A Consultant (MPWMD) will provide general QA/QC support over the Seaside Basin Monitoring and Management Program. These costs are included in the other tasks.
M.1.g **Prepare Documents for SGMA Reporting** **($2,694)**	Section 10720.8 of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) requires adjudicated basins to submit annual reports. Most of the documentation that needs to be reported is already generated by the Watermaster in conjunction with preparing its own Annual Reports. However, some information such as changes in basin storage is not currently generated and will require consultant assistance to do so. This task will be used to obtain this consultant assistance, as needed.

I. 2 Comprehensive Basin Production, Water Level and Water Quality Monitoring Program

I. 2. a. Database Management	
I. 2. a. 1 **Conduct Ongoing Data Entry and Database Maintenance/ Enhancement** **($15,432)**	The database will be maintained by a Consultant (MPWMD) performing this work for the Watermaster. MPWMD will enter new data into the consolidated database, including water production volumes, water quality and water level data, and such other data as may be appropriate. Other than an annual reporting of data to another Watermaster Consultant at the end of the Water Year, as mentioned in Task I.4.c below, no reporting of water level or water quality data during the Water Year is required. However, MPWMD will promptly notify the Watermaster of any missing data or data collection irregularities that are encountered. Under this Task, when requested MPWMD will also respond to requests from consultants and others for data from the database. At the end of the Water Year MPWMD will prepare an annual water production, water level, and water quality tabulation in Access format and will provide the tabulation to another Watermaster Consultant who will use that data in the preparation of the SIAR under Task No. I.4.c of the Monitoring and Management Program. No enhancements to the database are anticipated during 2026. Watermaster staff will maintain the Watermaster's website.
I. 2. a. 2 **Verify Accuracy of Production Well Meters** **($0)**	To ensure that water production data is accurate, the well meters of the major producers were verified for accuracy during 2009 and again during 2015. No additional work of this type is anticipated during 2026.

I. 2. b. Data Collection Program	
I. 2. b. 1 **Site Representation and Selection** **($0)**	The monitoring well network review that was started in 2008 has been completed, and sites have been identified where future monitoring well(s) could be installed, if it is deemed necessary to do so in order to fill in data gaps. In 2026 the location(s) of additional monitoring wells may need to be identified, if additional monitoring wells are recommended and approved in the Seawater Intrusion Response Plan (SIRP) described under Task I.4.e.1. If this work is found to be necessary, the costs to perform it will be included in Task I.4.e.1.
I. 2 b. 2 **Collect Water Levels** **($23,932)**	Each of the monitoring wells will be visited on a regular basis. Water levels will be determined by either taking manual water levels using an electric sounder, or by dataloggers. The wells where the use of dataloggers is feasible or appropriate have been equipped with dataloggers. All of the other wells will be manually measured. This Task includes the purchase of one datalogger and parts for the datalogger to keep in inventory as a spare if needed.
I. 2. b. 3 **Collect Water Quality Samples.** **($39,862)**	As discussed in the 2018 Annual Report, water quality data will be collected quarterly from certain of the monitoring wells, but is no longer being collected from the four coastal Sentinel Wells. Because many years of data have shown essentially no change in aquifer water quality, beginning in WY2023 the frequency of induction logging of the Sentinel Wells was reduced to once per year. As discussed in the 2012 Annual Report, water quality analyses were expanded to include barium and iodide ions. Since these analyses have created more than 10 years of data, as discussed in the 2022 Annual Report the analyses were no longer being performed starting in WY 2023. They will only be resumed if the other water quality parameters are indicative of seawater intrusion. As discussed in the 2021 Annual Report, the frequency of sampling of SBWM-5 (the Camp Huffman well) has been reduced over the years. It is being sampled once every five years beginning in WY 2022. Water quality data may come from water quality samples that are taken from these wells and submitted to a State Certified analytic laboratory for general mineral and physical suite of analyses, or the data may come from induction logging of these wells and/or other data gathering techniques. The Consultant or Contractor selected to perform this work will make this judgment based on consideration of costs and other factors. Sampling equipment sits in the water column and may periodically need to be replaced or repaired. Accordingly, an allowance to perform maintenance on previously installed equipment has been included in this Task. Also, in the event a sampling pump fails or is found to be no longer adequate due to declining groundwater levels, an allowance of $950 to purchase a replacement sampling pump has been included in this Task.

I. 2. b. 4 **Update Program Schedule and Standard Operating Procedures.** **($0)**	All recommendations from prior reviews of the data collection program have been implemented. No additional work of this type is anticipated in 2026.
I. 2. b. 5 **Monitor Well Construction** **($0)**	A well to replace Monitoring Well FO-9 Shallow, which in 2021 was found to have a leaking casing, was installed in 2023. In 2026 additional monitoring wells may need to be installed, if additional monitoring wells are recommended and approved in the Seawater Intrusion Response Plan (SIRP) described under Task I.4.e.1. If new monitoring wells are approved for construction, the costs associated with that work will be included in the 2026 M&MP Capital Budget.
I. 2. b. 6 **Reports** **($2,112)**	This task was essentially eliminated starting in 2020 by having the data collected by MPWMD under tasks I.2.b.1, I.2.b.2, and I.2.b.3 reported in the SIAR under Task I.4.c. The work remaining under this task is for MPWMD to prepare and provide the data appendix to the Consultant that prepares the SIAR. No formalized reporting on a quarterly basis is required. However, MPWMD will promptly notify the Watermaster and the Consultant that prepares the SIAR of any missing data or data collection irregularities in the water quality and water level data collected under Tasks I.2.b.2 and I.2.b.3.
I.2.b.7 **SGMA Data Submittal** **($3,168)**	In 2025 the Department of Water Resources created a portal into which adjudicated basins can submit their "voluntary well" data, which in the past has been submitted into the State's CASGEM system. In 2026 on the Watermaster's behalf MPWMD will compile and submit data on the Watermaster's "Voluntary Wells" into the State's Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) groundwater management database. The term "Voluntary Well" refers to a well that does not have its data reported into the CASGEM system, but for which the Watermaster obtains data. This will be done in the format and on the schedule required by the Department of Water Resources under the SGMA.
I.2.b.8 **Perform Subsurface Electromagnetic Imaging** **($15,500)**	The 2023 induction logging revealed gradually increasing conductivity in some of the shallower formations near the coastline. In 2025 subsurface electromagnetic imaging in the vicinity of Sentinel Well No. 4 was performed. Depending on the usefulness and value of that work, additional subsurface electromagnetic imaging may be performed in 2026.
I. 3 Basin Management	
I. 3. a. **Enhanced Seaside Basin Groundwater Model** **(Costs listed in subtasks below)**	The Watermaster and its consultants use a Groundwater Model for basin management purposes.

I.3.a.1 **Update the Existing Model** **($125,000)**	The Model, described in the report titled "Groundwater Flow and Transport Model" dated October 1, 2007, was updated in 2009 in order to develop protective water levels, and to evaluate replenishment scenarios and develop answers to Basin management questions. The Model was again updated in 2014. In 2018 the Model was recalibrated and updated. Work is being performed by the Salinas Valley Basin and Marina Coast Groundwater Sustainability Agencies on the hydrogeologic modeling of the Monterey Subbasin. Significant changes in the understanding of the hydrogeology of that subbasin are being identified, and an updated model of that subbasin is expected to be completed in late 2025. In order for the Watermaster's Model to incorporate that new information and to more closely coordinate with the updated Monterey Subbasin model, An evaluation of the most cost-effective means of either modifying or replacing the existing Seaside Basin model was performed in late 2025. It is anticipated that the recommendations resulting from that evaluation will be implemented starting in 2026.
I. 3. a. 2 **Develop Protective Water Levels** **($0)**	A series of cross-sectional models was created in 2009 in order to develop protective water levels for selected production wells, as well as for the Basin as a whole. This work is discussed in Hydrometrics' November 2009 report titled *"Seaside Groundwater Basin Modeling and Protective Groundwater Elevations,"* and is posted on the Watermaster's website. As discussed in Attachment 10 of the 2013 Annual Report, further work was started in 2013 to refine these protective water levels, but it was found that the previously developed protective water levels were reasonable. If appropriate, these protective water levels will be updated, and/or protective water levels will be developed for additional wells, , as part of the work of Task I.3.c. or I.4.e.
I. 3. a. 3 **Evaluate Replenishment Scenarios and Develop Answers to Basin Management Questions** **($40,000)**	Modeling performed to date indicates that the solution to the problem of water levels in the Seaside Basin being below Protective Water Levels will be to inject replenishment water. Two projects are planned that have the potential to provide additional water for Basin replenishment. The first is the Pure Water Monterey Expansion (PWMX) Project for which construction bids were solicited in 2023 and is projected to become operational in 2025. The PWMX Project will increase the capacity of the existing 3,500 AFY PWM Project by 2,250 AFY. The second is the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project's (MPWSP) desalination plant which is still in the design and permitting stage. The proponent of the MPWSP, California American Water, anticipates starting construction of the desalination plant in October 2025 and the plant becoming operational in 2028. Growth is built into each of these projects' plant capacity, and the full capacity of these plants will likely not all be needed for some years into the future. During the time period that these projects would have excess capacity, they could potentially provide water for Basin replenishment.

	Montgomery & Associates agrees that injection is the quickest way to bring groundwater levels up in the Seaside Basin. Modeling performed in 2022 and 2023 found that on average between 1,000 and 3,700 AFY of replenishment water will need to be needed, depending on future water demands and rainfall. Modeling performed in 2014, 2015, and 2016 led to the conclusion that groundwater levels in parts of the Laguna Seca Subarea will continue to fall, even if all pumping within that subarea is discontinued, because of the influence of pumping from areas near to, but outside of, the Basin boundary. The Groundwater Sustainability Plan for the Corral de Tierra subarea of the Monterey Subbasin includes projects to help to alleviate this problem, but they will be insufficient to completely alleviate it. This Task includes a $40,000 allowance to perform further modeling or analyses pertaining to Basin management issues if so directed by the Watermaster Board.
I. 3. b. **Complete Preparation of Basin Management Action Plan** **($0)**	The Watermaster's Consultant completed preparation of the Basin Management Action Plan (BMAP) in February 2009. The BMAP serves as the Watermaster's long-term seawater intrusion prevention plan. The Sections that are included in the BMAP are: Executive Summary Section 1 – Background and Purpose Section 2 – State of the Seaside Groundwater Basin Section 3 – Supplemental Water Supplies Section 4 –Groundwater Management Actions Section 5 – Recommended Management Strategies Section 6 – References
I. 3. c. **Refine and/or Update the Basin Management Action Plan** **($0)**	In 2019 the BMAP was updated based on new data and knowledge that has been gained since it was prepared in 2009. No further work of this type is anticipated in 2026. However, although no funds are budgeted for this Task in 2026, since the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) for the adjacent Monterey Subbasin of the Salinas Valley Groundwater Basin was completed in early 2022, at some point it may be appropriate to further update the BMAP to reflect the impacts of implementing that GSP.
I. 3. d. **Evaluate Coastal Wells for Cross-Aquifer Contamination Potential** **($0)**	If seawater intrusion were to reach any of the coastal wells in any aquifer, and if a well was constructed without proper seals to prevent cross-aquifer communication, or if deterioration of the well led to casing leakage, it would be possible for the intrusion to flow from one aquifer to another. An evaluation of this was performed in 2012 and is described in Attachment 10 of the 2012 Annual Report.

	In 2021 the Watermaster TAC examined the feasibility of performing conductivity profiling of certain of the near-coastal wells that were evaluated in the 2012 Memorandum, as a method of determining if any of those wells was allowing downward migration of intruded water from the shallow dunes aquifer to enter the Paso Robles aquifer. However, it was concluded that conditions in those wells would make it infeasible to perform such work. No further work of this type is anticipated in 2026.
I.3.e. **Seaside Basin Geochemical Model** **($10,000)**	When new sources of water are introduced into an aquifer, with each source having its own unique water quality, there can be chemical reactions that may have the potential to release minerals which have previously been attached to soil particles, such as arsenic or mercury, into solution and thus into the water itself. This has been experienced in some other locations where changes occurred in the quality of the water being injected into an aquifer. MPWMD's consultants used geochemical modeling to predict the effects of injecting Carmel River water into the Seaside Groundwater Basin under the ASR program. In 2019 a geochemical evaluation of introducing advance-treated water from the Pure Water Monterey Project was performed. That evaluation concluded that there would be no adverse geochemical impacts as a result of introducing that water into the Basin. A similar evaluation of the impact of introducing ASR water also concluded that there would be no adverse geochemical impacts. An evaluation of introducing desalinated water will be performed, if the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project's desalination plant proceeds into the construction phase. If the geochemical evaluation of injecting desalinated water indicates the potential for problems to occur, then Montgomery and Associates may use the Watermaster's updated groundwater model, and information about injection locations and quantities, injection scheduling, etc. provided by MPWMD and/or California American Water for this project, to develop model scenarios to see if the problem(s) can be averted by changing delivery schedules and delivery quantities. This Task includes an allowance of $10,000 to have Montgomery and Associates perform such modeling, if necessary. If the modeling predicts that there may be adverse impacts from introducing desalinated water, measures to mitigate those impacts will be developed under a separate task that will be created for that purpose when and if necessary.

I. 4 Seawater Intrusion Response Plan (formerly referred to as the Seawater Intrusion Contingency Plan)

I. 4. a. **Oversight of Seawater Intrusion Detection and Tracking** **($0)**	Consultants will provide general oversight over the Seawater Intrusion detection program under the other Tasks in this Work Plan.

I. 4. c. **Annual Report- Seawater Intrusion Analysis** **($36,346)**	At the end of each water year, a Consultant will reanalyze all water quality data. Water level and water quality data will be provided to the Consultant by another Consultant (MPWMD) in MS Access format. The Consultant will put this data into a report format and will include it as an attachment to the Seawater Intrusion Analysis Report. If possible, semi-annual chloride concentration maps will be produced for each aquifer in the basin. Time series graphs, trilinear graphs, and stiff diagram comparisons will be updated with new data. The induction logs will be analyzed to identify changes in seawater wedge locations. If subsurface electromagnetic imaging is performed in 2026 under Task I.2.b.8, information from that work will be used to supplement this data. All analyses will be incorporated into an annual report that follows the format of the initial historical data report. Potential seawater intrusion will be highlighted in the report, and if necessary, recommendations will be included. The annual report will be submitted for review by the TAC and the Board. Modifications to the report will be incorporated based on input from these bodies, as well as Watermaster staff.
I. 4. e. **Refine and/or Update the Seawater Intrusion Response Plan** **($0)**	Due to the observation of increasing conductivity in the 2023 induction logging in some of the shallower formations near the coastline, it was determined that in 2025 it would be appropriate to update the 2009 SIRP. The updated SIRP was completed in late 2025 and includes the incorporation of data that was obtained since 2009 and technology and techniques that make the SIRP more practical and useful.
I. 4. e.1 **Implement Recommendations in the Updated Seawater Intrusion Response Plan** **($25,000)**	The updated SIRP contains recommendations for proactive actions the Watermaster could take to make in advance of the actual detection of seawater intrusion, to make it possible to more rapidly implement the SIRP, if seawater intrusion is subsequently determined to be occurring. This new Task is intended to provide funds to begin taking some of those preliminary actions, if deemed beneficial. It is not expected that significant implementation actions, if any, will start being undertaken until 2027, after the Seaside Basin Groundwater Model has been updated.
I. 4. f. **If Seawater Intrusion is Determined to be Occurring, Implement Contingency Response Plan** **($0)**	The SIRP will be implemented if seawater intrusion, as defined in the SIRP, is determined by the Watermaster to be occurring.

Seaside Groundwater Basin Watermaster
Replenishment Fund Proposed Budget
Fiscal (Calendar) Year 2026

	2025 Budget	2025 Estimated Total	2026 Proposed Budget
Assessment Income			
Mission Memorial Park*	$ 10,474	$ 12,112	$ 8,112
Totals	10,474	12,112	8,112
Expenditures			
Legal Services - Replenishment	10,474	4,000	8,112
Total Expenses	10,474	4,000	8,112
Total Available	-	8,112	-

** Mission Memorial Park overproduced in Water Years 2021 and 2022 for a total assessment of $28,510; $20,390 has been expended to-date for Legal replenishment related services (Funding Mechanism)*

Seaside Groundwater Basin Watermaster

Replenishment Fund 9/19/25

Water Year 2026 (October 1 - September 30) / Fiscal Year (January 1 - December 31, 2026)

PROPOSED BUDGET

Replenishment Fund		**2006**	**2007**	**2008**	**2009**	**2010**	**2011**	**2012**	**2013**	**2014**	**2015**	**2016**
Assessment Water Year		WY 05/06	WY 06/07	WY 07/08	WY 08/09	WY 09/10	WY 10/11	WY 11/12	WY 12/13	WY 13/14	WY 14/15	WY 15/16
Unit Cost:	a	$1,132 / $283	$1,132 / $283	$2,485 / 621.25	$3,040 / $760	$2,780 / $695	$2,780 / $695	$2,780 / $695	$2,780 / $695	$2,702/$675.50	$2,702/$675.50	$2,702/$675.50
Cal-Am Water Balance Forward	b	**$ -**	**$ 1,641,004**	**$ 4,226,710**	**$ (2,871,690)**	**$ (2,839,939)**	**$ (3,822,219)**	**$ (6,060,164)**	**$ (8,735,671)**	**$ (6,173,771)**	**$ (3,102,221)**	**$ (676,704)**
Cal-Am Water Production (AF)	c	*3,710.00*	*4,059.90*	*3,862.90*	*2,966.02*	*3,713.52*	*3,416.04*	*3,070.90*	*3,076.61*	*3,232.10*	*2,764.73*	*1,879.21*
Cal-Am Water NSY Over-Production (AF)	d	*1,862.69*	*2,266.32*	*2,092.16*	*1,241.27*	*1,479.47*	*1,146.71*	*820.48*	*856.42*	*1,032.77*	*782.17*	-
Exceeding Natural Safe Yield Considering Alternative Producers	e	$ 2,106,652	$ 2,565,471	$ 5,199,014	$ 3,773,464	$ 4,112,933	$ 3,187,854	$ 2,280,943	$ 2,380,842	$ 2,790,539	$ 2,113,414	-
Operating Yield Overproduction Replenishment	f	**$ -**	$ 20,235	$ 8,511	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 154,963	$ 181,057	$ 281,012	$ 312,103	-
Total California American	g	***$ 2,106,652***	***$ 2,585,706***	***$ 5,207,525***	***$ 3,773,464***	***$ 4,112,933***	***$ 3,187,854***	***$ 2,435,907***	***$ 2,561,899***	***$ 3,071,550***	***$ 2,425,516***	***$ -***
CAW Credit Against Assessment	h	$ (465,648)		$ (12,305,924)	$ (3,741,714)	$ (5,095,213)	$ (5,425,799)	$ (5,111,413)				
CAW Unpaid Balance	i	***$ 1,641,004***	***$ 4,226,710***	***(2,871,690)***	***$ (2,839,939)***	***$ (3,822,219)***	***$ (6,060,164)***	***$ (8,735,671)***	***$ (6,173,771)***	***$ (3,102,221)***	***$ (676,704)***	***$ (676,704)***
City of Seaside Balance Forward	j	**$ -**	**$ 243,294**	**$ 426,165**	**$ 1,024,272**	**$ 1,619,973**	**$ 891,509**	**$ (110,014)**	**$ (773,813)**	**$ (1,575,876)**	**$ (2,889,325)**	**$ (3,346,548)**
City of Seaside Municipal Production (AF)	k	*332.00*	*287.70*	*294.20*	*293.44*	*282.87*	*240.68*	*233.72*	*257.73*	*223.64*	*185.01*	*195.16*
City of Seaside NSY Over-Production (AF)	l	*194.07*	*153.78*	*161.99*	*153.06*	*113.21*	*50.84*	*58.82*	*85.17*	*52.71*	*25.77*	*37.87*
Exceeding Natural Safe Yield Considering Alternative Producers	m	$ 219,689	$ 174,082	$ 402,540	$ 465,300	$ 314,721	$ 141,335	$ 163,509	$ 236,782	$ 142,410	$ 69,630	$ 102,330
Operating Yield Overproduction Replenishment	n	$ 12,622	$ 85	$ 4,225	$ 16,522	$ 20,690	$ -	$ 1,689	$ 27,007	$ 3,222	$ 38	$ 11,959
Total Municipal	o	***$ 232,310***	***$ 174,167***	***$ 406,764***	***$ 481,823***	***$ 335,412***	***$ 141,335***	***$ 165,198***	***$ 263,788***	***$ 145,631***	***$ 69,667***	***$ 114,290***
City of Seaside - Golf Courses (APA - 540 AFY)												
Exceeding Natural Safe Yield - Alternative Producer	p	-	-	$ 131,705	$ 69,701	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Operating Yield Overproduction Replenishment	q	-	-	$ 32,926	$ 17,427	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Golf Courses	r	$ -	$ -	$ 164,631	$ 87,128	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Total City of Seaside*	s	**$ 232,310**	**$ 174,167**	**$ 571,395**	**$ 568,951**	**$ 335,412**	**$ 141,335**	**$ 165,198**	**$ 263,788**	**$ 145,631**	**$ 69,667**	**$ 114,290**
City of Seaside Late Payment 5%	t	$ 10,984	$ 8,704	$ 26,712	$ 26,750	$ 15,737						
In-lieu Credit Against Assessment	u					$ (1,079,613)	$ (1,142,858)	$ (828,996)	$ (1,065,852)	$ (1,459,080)	$ (526,890)	$ (162)
City of Seaside Unpaid Balance	v	***$ 243,294***	***$ 426,165***	***$ 1,024,272***	***$ 1,619,973***	***$ 891,509***	***$ (110,014)***	***$ (773,813)***	***$ (1,575,876)***	***$ (2,889,325)***	***$ (3,346,548)***	***$ (3,232,420)***
Mission Memorial Park												
Mission Memorial Park Production (AF)	w			*20.80*	*26.40*	*12.80*	*22.40*	*27.00*	*24.95*	*24.89*	*17.97*	*13.67*
Mission Memorial Park NSY Over-Production (AF)	x	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Exceeding Natural Safe Yield - Alternative Producer	y	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Operating Yield Overproduction Replenishment	z	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Mission Memorial Park	aa	**$ -**	**$ -**	**$ -**	**$ -**	**$ -**	**$ -**	**$ -**	**$ -**	**$ -**	**$ -**	**$ -**
Total Replenishment Fund Balance	bb	**$ 1,884,298**	**$ 4,652,874**	**$ (1,847,417)**	**$ (1,219,966)**	**$ (2,930,710)**	**$ (6,170,178)**	**$ (9,509,483)**	**$ (7,749,648)**	**$ (5,991,546)**	**$ (4,023,252)**	**$ (3,909,125)**
Replenishment Fund Balance Forward	cc	$ -	**$ 1,884,298**	**$ 4,652,874**	**$ (1,847,417)**	**$ (1,219,966)**	**$ (2,930,710)**	**$ (6,170,178)**	**$ (9,509,483)**	**$ (7,749,648)**	**$ (5,991,546)**	**$ (4,023,252)**
Total Replenishment Assessments	dd	$ 2,349,946	$ 2,768,576	$ 5,805,632	$ 4,369,165	$ 4,464,082	$ 3,329,189	$ 2,601,104	$ 2,825,688	$ 3,217,182	$ 2,495,183	$ 114,290
Total Paid and/or Credited	ee	$ (465,648)	$ -	$ (12,305,924)	$ (3,741,714)	$ (6,174,826)	$ (6,568,657)	$ (5,940,409)	$ (1,065,852)	$ (1,459,080)	$ (526,890)	$ (162)
Grand Total Fund Balance	ff	**$ 1,884,298**	**$ 4,652,874**	**$ (1,847,417)**	**$ (1,219,966)**	**$ (2,930,710)**	**$ (6,170,178)**	**$ (9,509,483)**	**$ (7,749,648)**	**$ (5,991,546)**	**$ (4,023,252)**	**$ (3,909,125)**

Seaside Groundwater Basin Watermaster 9/19/25

Replenishment Fund Page 2

Water Year 2026 (October 1 - September 30) / Fiscal Year (January 1 - December 31, 2026)

PROPOSED BUDGET - Continued

Replenishment Fund		2017	2018	2019	2020	WY 2021	WY 2022	WY 2023	WY 2024	Budget WY 2025	Totals WY 2006 Through 2024	Budget WY 2026	Projected Totals Through WY 2025
Assessment Water Year		WY 16/17	WY 17/18	WY 18/19	WY 19/20	WY 20/21	WY 21/22	WY 22/23	WY 23/24	WY 23/24		WY 23/24	
Unit Cost:	a	$2,872 / $718	$2,872 / $718	$2,872 / $718	$2,872 / $718	$2,947 / $737	$3,260/ $815	$3,461/ $865	$4,529/$1,132	$4,845/$1,211		$4,935/$1,234	
Cal-Am Water Balance Forward	b	**$ (676,704)**	**$ (491,747)**	**$ (48,797,949)**	**$ (47,979,852)**	**$ (46,855,121)**	**$ (46,855,121)**	**$ (46,855,121)**	**$ (46,855,121)**	**$ (46,855,121)**		**$ (46,855,121)**	
Cal-Am Water Production (AF)	c	*2,029.51*	*2,229.45*	*2,120.22*	*2,245.88*	*1,664.04*	*1,648.71*	*1,569.60*	*1,594.25*		*50,853.59*		
Cal-Am Water NSY Over-Production (AF)	d	*64.40*	*374.65*	*284.85*	*334.21*	-	-	-			*14,638.57*		
Exceeding Natural Safe Yield Considering Alternative Producers	e	$ 184,957	$ 1,075,995	$ 818,097	$ 959,859	-	-	-	-	-	$ 33,550,034	-	$ 33,550,034
Operating Yield Overproduction Replenishment	f				164,872	-	-	-	-	-	$ 1,122,753	-	$ 1,122,753
Total California American	g	**$ 184,957**	**$ 1,075,995**	**$ 818,097**	**$ 1,124,731**	**$ -**	**$ -**	**$ -**	**-**	**-**	**$ 34,672,786**	**-**	**$ 34,672,786**
CAW Credit Against Assessment	h		$ (49,382,196)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	$ (81,527,907)	-	$ (81,527,907)
CAW Unpaid Balance	i	***$ (491,747)***	***$ (48,797,949)***	***$ (47,979,852)***	***$ (46,855,121)***	***$ (46,855,121)***	***$ (46,855,121)***	***$ (46,855,121)***	***$ (46,855,121)***	***$ (46,855,121)***	***$ (46,855,121)***	***$ (46,855,121)***	***$ (46,855,121)***
City of Seaside Balance Forward (120.28 AF)	j	**$ (3,232,420)**	**$ (3,142,500)**	**$ (3,022,249)**	**$ (2,919,806)**	**$ (2,802,831)**	**$ (2,708,829)**	**$ (2,661,184)**	**$ (2,661,184)**	**$ (2,661,184)**		**$ (2,661,184)**	
City of Seaside Municipal Production (AF)	k	*188.31*	*184.63*	*178.40*	*181.65*	*174.69*	*155.12*	*158.46*			*4,047.41*		
City of Seaside NSY Over-Production (AF)	l	*30.47*	*32.46*	*27.82*	*32.06*	*25.52*	*11.69*	-			*1,247.31*		
Exceeding Natural Safe Yield Considering Alternative Producers	m	$ 87,512	$ 93,225	$ 79,893	$ 92,089	$ 75,197	$ 38,116	-	0.00	0.00	$ 2,898,358	0.00	$ 2,898,358
Operating Yield Overproduction Replenishment	n	2,409	27,026	22,550	24,886	18,806	9,529	-	0.00	0.00	$ 203,263	0.00	$ 203,263
Total Municipal	o	$ 89,920	$ 120,251	$ 102,443	$ 116,975	$ 94,002	$ 47,645	$ -	0.00	0.00	$ 3,101,621	0.00	$ 3,101,621
City of Seaside - Golf Courses (APA - 540 AFY)													
Exceeding Natural Safe Yield - Alternative Producer	p	-	-	-	-	-	-				$ 201,406		$ 201,406
Operating Yield Overproduction Replenishment	q	-	-	-	-	-	-				$ 50,353		$ 50,353
Total Golf Courses	r	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -			$ 251,759		$ 251,759
Total City of Seaside*	s	**$ 89,920**	**$ 120,251**	**$ 102,443**	**$ 116,975**	**$ 94,002**	**$ 47,645**	**-**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**$ 3,353,380**	**0.00**	**$ 3,353,380**
City of Seaside Late Payment 5%	t										$ 88,887		$ 88,887
In-lieu Credit Against Assessment	u										$ (6,103,451)		$ (6,103,451)
City of Seaside Unpaid Balance	v	***$ (3,142,500)***	***$ (3,022,249)***	***$ (2,919,806)***	***$ (2,802,831)***	***$ (2,708,829)***	***$ (2,661,184)***	***$ (2,661,184)***	***$ (2,661,184)***	***$ (2,661,184)***	***$ (2,661,184)***	***$ (2,661,184)***	***$ (2,661,184)***
Mission Memorial Park (APA - 31 AFY)													
Mission Memorial Park Production (AF)	w	*13.74*	*14.43*	*16.07*	*20.00*	*46.77*	*33.95*				*335.84*		
Mission Memorial Park NSY Over-Production (AF)	x	-	-	-		*15.77*	*2.95*				*18.72*		
Exceeding Natural Safe Yield - Alternative Producer	y	-	-	-	-	$ 46,488	$ 9,608				$ 56,096		$ 56,096
Operating Yield Overproduction Replenishment	z	-	-	-	-	11,626.00	2,401.97				$ 14,028		$ 14,028
Board Approved (5/4/22) Credit Against Assessment						(33,114.00)					$ (33,114)		$ (33,114)
$8,500 Applied to Admin Fund to cover expenses						(8,500.00)							
Mission Memorial Park Unpaid Balance	aa	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	$ -	-	$ -
Total	o	***$ -***	***$ -***	***$ -***	***$ -***	***$ 16,500***	***$ 12,010***	***$ (16,500)***	***$ (12,010)***	***$ -***	***$ (0)***	***$ -***	***$ (0)***
Balance of Available Funds									***$ 6,049***	***$ 20,398***	$ 20,398		
Total Replenishment Fund Balance	bb	**$ (3,634,247)**	**$ (51,820,198)**	**$ (50,899,658)**	**$ (49,657,952)**	**$ (49,563,950)**	**$ (49,516,305)**	**$ (49,516,305)**	**$ (49,510,256)**	**$ (49,495,907)**	**$ (49,495,907)**	**$ (49,495,907)**	**$ (49,495,907)**
Replenishment Fund Balance Forward	cc	**$ (3,909,125)**	**$ (3,634,247)**	**$ (51,820,198)**	**$ (50,899,658)**	**$ (49,657,952)**	**$ (49,563,950)**	**$ (49,516,305)**	**$ (49,510,256)**	**$ (49,499,907)**		**$ (49,495,907)**	
Total Replenishment Assessments	dd	$ 274,877	$ 1,196,246	$ 920,540	$ 1,241,706	$ 110,502	$ 59,655	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 38,143,563	$ -	**$ 38,143,563**
Total Paid and/or Credited	ee		$ (49,382,196)			$ (16,500)	$ (12,010)				(87,659,868)		**(87,659,868)**
Total Paid for Replenishment Legal Services	ff							$ 6,049	10,349	4,000	20,398	8,112	**28,510**
Grand Total Fund Balance	gg	***$ (3,634,247)***	***$ (51,820,198)***	***$ (50,899,658)***	***$ (49,657,952)***	***$ (49,563,950)***	***$ (49,516,305)***	***$ (49,510,256)***	***$ (49,499,907)***	***$ (49,495,907)***	***$ (49,495,907)***	***$ (49,487,795)***	***$ (49,487,795)***

SEASIDE GROUNDWATER BASIN WATERMASTER **ITEM 2**

TO: Watermaster Budget & Finance Committee
FROM: Laura Paxton, Administrative Officer
DATE: September 19, 2025
SUBJECT: Water Year 2026 Overproduction Replenishment Assessment Unit Costs for Water

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RECOMMENDATION: Recommend to the Watermaster board at its October 1, 2025 board meeting to adopt a Replenishment Assessment Unit Cost of $4,962 and $1,241/AF for Natural Safe Yield and Operating Yield Overproduction, respectively, for Water Year 2026.

BACKGROUND: Per page 33 of the Decision, "The per acre-foot (AF) amount of the Replenishment Assessments shall be determined and declared by Watermaster in October of each Water Year in order to provide Parties with advance knowledge of the cost of Over-Production in that Water Year." Thus, the per acre-foot amount determined by the Board on or before October of 2025 will be used to calculate Replenishment Assessments for pumping that occurs during Water Year 2026 (October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2026).

For Water Years 2014, 2015, and 2016 the Board adopted a Replenishment Assessment Unit Cost of $2,702/AF for Natural Safe Yield Overproduction. This unit cost was developed starting with Water Year 2014 by taking the average of the Base Unit Cost ($/AF) of the four potential water supply projects that the Board felt were the most likely to be implemented. For Water Year 2017 the Board adopted a revised Replenishment Assessment Unit Cost of $2,872. This revised Unit Cost was calculated using updated unit cost data for the three projects which the Board at that time felt were the most likely to be implemented. The number of projects was reduced from four to three, because when the WY 2017 Unit Cost was being calculated, it was determined that two of the previous four projects (Regional Desalination and the Pure Water Monterey Groundwater Replenishment Projects) would be part of a combined project referred to as the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project (MPWSP). The unit cost for Water Year 2017 was carried over to the three subsequent Water Years because no updated cost data was available for those projects, and no other viable projects could be identified. In 2020, a blended unit cost value was provided for the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project based on a reduced size desalination plant offset by water to be provided by the Pure Water Monterey Project. Based on the updated Pure Water Monterey Project's unit cost, the blended unit cost for that combined project was updated from $4,591/AF to $4,817/AF, resulting in a Water Year 2021 Replenishment Assessment Unit Cost of $2,947/AF. In 2022, a blended unit cost value was calculated for the MPWSP based on an updated PWM unit cost for 3,500AF of potential volume from the project. The blended unit cost for that combined project was updated from $4,817/AF to $4,948/AF. For purposes of the 2022 Replenishment Assess Unit Cost calculation, $2,808 was used as the RUWAP cost/AF. In 2023, a blended unit cost value was calculated for the MPWSP based on an updated PWM and PWMX unit cost for an increased 5,750AF of potential volume from both projects. The blended unit cost for the combined projects was updated from $4,948/AF to $4,872/AF. At the September 9, 2023 Watermaster Board meeting, Director Riley submitted a document requesting that every category of water be flow weighted instead of the current calculation method established in 2017 that blends the Base Unit Cost ($/AF) value for the MPWSP with the Base Unit Cost for the Pure Water Monterey Project (PWM) based on a reduced size desalination plant offset by water to be provided by PWM. The Committee, and subsequently the Board adopted Director Riley's method of calculation of the unit costs of $4,529/AF and $1,132/AF for Water Year 2024. That calculation method has continued since. The 2025 calculations included updated PWM/PWMX, ASR, and RUWAP actual and estimated project costs with $4,845/AF and $1,211/AF unit costs approved.

DISCUSSION: The attached 2026 Table of calculations includes updated PWM/PWMX, ASR, and RUWAP actual and estimated project costs. No updated estimated project costs were received from California American Water for the desalination plant. The proposed Replenishment Assessment Unit Costs would therefore be $4,962/AF and $1,241/AF for Natural Safe Yield and Operating Yield Overproduction, respectively, for Water Year 2026.

ATTACHMENTS: 2026 Unit Cost Data Table

WATER YEAR 2026 (October 1, 2025-September 30, 2026)

ANTICIPATED UNIT COSTS OF WATER COULD POTENTIALLY BE USED FOR REPLENISHMENT OF THE SEASIDE BASIN

POTENTIAL SOURCE OF REPLENISHMENT WATER	POTENTIAL DATE REPLENISHMENT WATER COULD BECOME AVAILABLE	POTENTIAL VOLUME OF WATER THAT COULD BE SUPPLIED BY THE PROJECT (AFY) [1]	BASE UNIT COST ($/AF)	BASE UNIT COST YEAR
Regional Desalination[2]	2028	6,250	$6,147	2021
Pure Water Monterey and PWMX	2020 (PWM) 2025 (PWMX)	5,750	$4,356	2025
Seaside Basin ASR Expansion [3]	2021	1,000	$1,984	2025
Regional Urban Water Augmentation Project [4]	2021	1,400-1,700	$4,356	2025

(6,250X$6,147) + (5,750X$4,356) + (1,000X$1,984) + (1,550X$4,356) / 14,550 = $4,962.31 2026 Natural Safe Yield Overproduction Unit Cost/AF

$4,962.31 / 4 = $1,240.47 Operating Yield Overproduction Unit Cost/AF

FOOTNOTES:

(1) For the Regional Desalination Project this is the total amount of water from this source which could potentially come to the CAW distribution system, based on the desalination plant having a 6.4 MGD capacity which is equivalent to 7,169 AFY. Only a portion of this amount might be available as initially unused capacity that could be used to help replenish the Seaside Basin. For the RUWAP this is the total amount of non-potable water from this source. Only a portion of this amount might be used for in-lieu replenishment of the Seaside Basin. For the ASR Expansion Project this is the additional amount of water that could potentially be provided by this project (see footnote 4). For the PWM and PWMX this is the quantity of water that is being planned at this time by CAW for inclusion in its Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project.

(2) Base unit cost data based on PUC filing documents and provided by Dave Stoldt of MPWMD. The unit cost was confirmed in August 2021 by Ian Crooks of Cal Am as being the latest unit cost available for this project. For 2025, Tim O'Halloran requested the $6,147 continue to be used because plant design and acquisition of construction bids are still underway. No new cost information is available.

(3) The 1,000 AFY of potential water that this project could supply would be in addition to the 1,300 AFY included as part of the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project and would be an annual average taking into account river flow and hydrologic conditions that change from year to year. For 2024, per David Stoldt, this is the cost for ASR injection of 360 AFY long-term average of replenishment water with ASR expansion of a single new injection well. Because ASR replenishment water does not require extraction and treatment, the cost of customer demand is not factored here.

(4) Patrick Breen of MCWD noted that to determine total cost per acre-foot, use the $4,356/acre-foot cost from Pure Water Monterey (which would be RUWAP as well) and add MCWD O&M and Financing costs which are yet to be determined.